IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 18, and 20 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for managing memory, comprising:
breaking up a file into two or more memory blocks;
managing the two or more memory blocks as nodes in a heap tree wherein each node has a heap block reference; and
independently compressing one or more of the two or more memory blocks without reprocessing the file.

receiving a request to access memory as a linear file address; and emaslating the linear-file address to an appropriate heap block reference to access the memory blocks.

- 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprisings receiving a request to access memory at a linear file address; and translating the linear file address to an appropriate heap block reference to access the memory block, wherein the translating utilizes a file address mapping tree comprising a mapping from linear file addresses to heap block references.
- 3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, further comprising updating the file address mapping tree when a block is inserted into the heap tree.
- 4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, further comprising updating the file address mapping tree when address space is deleted by:

deleting an associated block from the heap tree; reducing a size of partial blocks as needed; and adjusting the file address mapping tree accordingly.

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- 5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 24, wherein:
- (a) the request to access memory comprises a request to insert data into the file at an insertion point; and
 - (b) the method further comprises:
 - (i) breaking one of the memory blocks at the insertion point; and
 - (ii) inserting the new data as a node in the heap tree.
- 6. (WITHDRAWN) A method for allocating memory comprising:
 maintaining, in a tree, a tri-linked list of deallocated memory units available for use by a
 heap, wherein a first link points to available deallocated memory units smaller than a current block
 size, a second link points to available deallocated memory units equal to the current block size, and a
 third link points to available deallocated memory units larger than the current block size;

receiving a request for memory;

traversing the tree to find a deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request for memory; and

allocating the deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request.

- 7. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6, wherein the traversing does not search the second link.
- 8. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 6, wherein memory units of equal size are linked together in the tree.
 - 9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for managing memory comprising:
 - (a) a file broken up into two or more blocks of memory;
- (b) a heap tree configured to manage the two or more blocks of memory as nodes in the heap tree, wherein: one or more of the two or more blocks of memory are independently compressed without reprocessing the file.
 - (i) cach aode has a heap block reference;

- · (ii) ——the heap tree-is configured to receive a request to access memory at a linear file address; and
- (iii)—the heap tree is configured to translate the linear file address to an appropriate heap block reference to access the memory block.
- 10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 9, wherein:
- (i) each node has a heap block reference:
- (ii) the heap tree is configured to receive a request to access memory at a linear file address; and
- (iii) the heap tree is configured to translate the linear file address to an appropriate heap block reference to access the memory block; and wherein the system further comprising comprises a file address mapping tree utilized by the heap tree, wherein the file address mapping tree comprises a mapping from linear file addresses to heap block references.
- 11. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 10, wherein the file address mapping tree is updated when a block is inserted into the heap tree.
- 12. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 10, wherein the file address mapping tree is updated when address space is deloted by:

deleting an associated block from the heap tree; reducing a size of partial blocks as needed; and adjusting the file address mapping tree accordingly.

- 13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 109, wherein:
- (a) the request to access memory comprises a request to insert data into the file at an insertion point; and
 - (b) the heap tree is configured to insert the data by:
 - (i) breaking one of the memory blocks at the insertion point; and
 - (ii) inserting the new data as a node in the heap tree.

- 14. (WITHDRAWN) A system for allocating memory comprising:
- (a) a heap tree comprising a mi-linked list of deallocated memory units available for use by a heap;
- (b) a first link of the tri-linked list pointing to available deallocated memory units smaller than a current block size;
- (c) a second link of the tri-linked list pointing to available deallocated memory units equal to the current block size;
- (d) a third link of the tri-linked list pointing to available deallocated memory units larger than the current block size;
 - (e) the heap configured to:
 - (i) receive a request for memory;
 - (ii) traverse the heap tree to find a deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request for memory; and
 - (iii) allocate the deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request.
- 15. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 14, wherein memory units of equal size are linked together in the heap tree.
- 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for managing memory, the method comprising:

breaking up a file into two or more memory blocks;

managing the two or more memory blocks as nodes in a heap tree; and wherein each node has a heap block reference;

independently compressing one or more of the two or more memory blocks without reprocessing the file.

receiving a request to access memory at a linear file address; and

translating the linear-file address to an appropriate heap block reference to necess the memory block.

- 17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of manufacture of claim 16, the method further comprising
- receiving a request to access memory at a linear file address; and

translating the linear file address to an appropriate heap block reference to access the memory block, wherein the translating utilizes a file address mapping tree comprising a mapping from linear file addresses to heap block references.

- 18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of manufacture of claim 1718, wherein the method further comprises updating the file address mapping tree when a block is inserted into the heap tree.
- (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein the file address mapping tree is updated when address space is deleted by:

deleting an associated block from the heap tree; reducing a size of partial blocks as needed; and adjusting the file address mapping tree accordingly.

- 20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of manufacture of claim 1846, wherein:
- (a) the request to access memory comprises a request to insert data into the file at an insertion point; and
 - the method further comprises: **(b)**
 - breaking one of the memory blocks at the insertion point; and
 - (ii) inserting the new data as a node in the heap tree.
- (WITHDRAWN) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for allocating memory, the method comprising:

maintaining, in a tree, a tri-linked list of deallocated memory units available for use by a heap, wherein a first link points to available deallocated memory units smaller than a current block size, a second link points to available deallocated memory units equal to the current block size, and a third link points to available deallocated memory units larger than the current block size;

receiving a request for memory;

traversing the tree to find a deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request for memory; and

allocating the deallocated memory unit that satisfies the request.

- 22. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the traversing does not search the second link.
- 23. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein memory units of equal size are linked together in the tree.